NUMB. DX.

The SPECTATOR.

----- *Si ſapis*
Neque præterquam quas ipſe amor moleſtias
Habet, addas; & illas, quas habet, recte feras.
Ter.

Wedneſday, October 15. 1712.

I Was the other Day driving in an Hack thro' *Gerard-ſtreet*, when my Eye was immediately catch'd with the prettieſt Object imaginable, the Face of a very fair Girl, between Thirteen and Fourteen, fixed at the Chin to a painted Saſh, and made part of the Lanſkip. It ſeem'd admirably done, and upon throwing my ſelf eagerly out of the Coach to look at it, it laugh'd, and flung from the Window. This amiable Figure dwelt upon me; and I was conſidering the Vanity of the Girl, and her pleaſant Coquettry in acting a Picture till ſhe was taken Notice of, and raiſed the Admiration of her Beholders. This little Circumſtance made me run into Reflections upon the Force of Beauty, and the wonderful Influence the Female Sex has upon the other Part of the Species. Our Hearts are ſeized with their Enchantments, and there are few of us, but brutal Men, who by that Hardneſs loſe the chief Pleaſure in them, can reſiſt their Inſinuations, tho' never ſo much againſt our own Intereſt and Opinion. It is common with Women to deſtroy the good Effects a Man's following his own Way and Inclination might have upon his Honour and Fortune, by interpoſing their Power over him in Matters wherein they cannot influence him, but to his Loſs and Diſparagement. I do not know therefore a Taſk ſo diffiult in humane Life, as to be Proof againſt the Importunities of a Woman a Man loves. There is certainly no Armour againſt Tears, ſullen Looks, or at beſt conſtrain'd Familiarities in her whom you uſually meet with Tranſport and Alacrity. Sir *Walter Rawleigh* was quoted in a Letter (of a very ingenious Correſpondent of mine) on this Subject. That Author, who had lived in Courts, Camps, travell'd through many Countries, and ſeen many Men under ſeveral Climates, and of as various Complections, ſpeaks of our Impotence to reſiſt the Wiles of Women in very ſevere Terms. His Words are as follow:

What Means did the Devil find out, or what Inſtruments did his own Subtlety preſent him, as fitteſt and apteſt to work his Miſchief by? Even the unquiet Vanity of the Woman; ſo as by Adam*'s hearkening to the Voice of his Wife, contrary to the expreſs Commandment of the living God, Mankind by that her Incantation became the Subject of Labour, Sorrow, and Death; the Woman being given to Man for a Comforter and Companion, but not for a Counſellor. It is alſo to be noted by whom the Woman was tempted: Even by the moſt ugly and unworthy of all Beaſts, into whom the Devil entered and perſwaded. Secondly, What was the Motive of her Diſobedience? Even a Deſire to know what was moſt unfitting her Knowledge; an Affection which has ever ſince remained in all the Poſterity of her Sex. Thirdly, What was it that moved the Man to yield to her Perſwaſions; Even the ſame Cauſe which hath moved all Men ſince to the like Conſent, namely, an Unwillingneſs to grieve her, or make her ſad, leſt ſhe ſhould pine, and be overcome with Sorrow. But if* Adam *in*

the

(Price Two-pence.)

the State of Perfection, and Solomon *the Son of* David, *God's choſen Servant, and himſelf a Man endued with the greateſt Wiſdom, did both of them diſobey their Creator by the Perſwaſion and for the Love they bare to a Woman, it is not ſo wonderful as lamentable, that other Men in ſucceeding Ages have been allured to ſo many inconvenient and wicked Practices by the Perſwaſions of their Wives, or other beloved Darlings, who cover over and ſhadow many malicious Purpoſes with a counterfeit Paſſion of diſſimulate Sorrow and Unquietneſs.*

The Motions of the Minds of Lovers are no where ſo well deſcribed, as in the Works of ſkilful Writers for the Stage. The Scene between *Fulvia* and *Curius* in the ſecond Act of *Johnſon's Catiline*, is an excellent Picture of the Power of a Lady over her Gallant. The Wench plays with his Affections; and as a Man of all Places in the World wiſhes to make a good Figure with his Miſtreſs, upon her upbraiding him with want of Spirit, he alludes to Enterprizes which he cannot reveal but with the Hazard of his Life. When he is worked thus far, with a little Flattery of her Opinion of his Gallantry, and Deſire to know more of it out of her overflowing Fondneſs to him, he brags to her till his Life is in her Diſpoſal.

When a Man is thus liable to be vanquiſhed by the Charms of her he loves, the ſafeſt Way is to determine what is proper to be done, but to avoid all Expoſtulation with her before he executes what he has reſolved. Women are ever too hard for us upon a Treaty, and one muſt conſider how ſenſeleſs a thing it is to argue with one whoſe Looks and Geſtures are more prevalent with you, than your Reaſon and Arguments can be with her. It is a moſt miſerable Slavery to ſubmit to what you diſapprove, and give up a Truth for no other Reaſon, but that you had not Fortitude to ſupport you in aſſerting it. A Man has enough to do to conquer his own unreaſonable Wiſhes and Deſires, but he does that in vain if he has thoſe of another to gratify. Let his Pride be in his Wife and Family, let him give them all the Conveniences of Life in ſuch a manner as if he were proud of them; but let it be his own innocent Pride, and not their exorbitant Deſires, which are indulged by him. In this Caſe all the little Arts imaginable are uſed to ſoften a Man's Heart, and raiſe his Paſſion above his Underſtanding; but in all Conceſſions of this Kind, a Man ſhould conſider whether the Preſent he makes flows from his own Love, or the Importunity of his Beloved: If from the latter, he is her Slave; if from the former, her Friend. We laugh it off, and do not weigh this Subjection to Women with that Serioufneſs which ſo important a Circumſtance deſerves. Why was Courage given to Man, if his Wife's Fears are to fruſtrate it? When this is once indulged, you are no longer her Guardian and Protector, as you were deſigned by Nature; but, in Compliance to her Weakneſſes, you have diſabled your ſelf from avoiding the Misfortunes into which they will lead you both, and you are to ſee the Hour in which you are to be reproached by herſelf for that very Complaiſance to her. It is indeed the moſt difficult Maſtery over our ſelves we can poſſibly attain, to reſiſt the Grief of her who charms us; but let the Heart ake, be the Anguiſh never ſo quick and painfu', it is what muſt be ſuffer'd and paſſed through, if you think to live like a Gentleman, or be conſcious to your ſelf that you are a Man of Honeſty. The old Argument, that *You do not love me if you deny me this*, which firſt was uſed to obtain a Trifle, by habitual Succeſs will oblige the unhappy Man who gives Way to it, to reſign the Cauſe even of his Country and his Honour.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

By Her Majeſty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this preſent Wedneſday, being the 15th of October, will be preſented a Comedy call'd Epſom Wells. The Part of Juſtice Clodpate by Mr. Johnſon, Frible by Mr. Pinkethman, Bisket by Mr. Bullock, Sen. Kick by Mr. Pack, Cuff by Mr. Burkhead, Bevil by Mr. Mills, Woodly by Mr. Bowman, Rains by Mr. Bullock, Jun. Mrs. Woodly by Mrs. Knight, Carolina by Mrs. Bradſhaw, Lucia by Mrs. Porter, Mrs. Bisket by Mrs Saunders. By Her Majeſty's Command no Perſons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

For SALE by the CANDLE.

This Day, the 15th Inſtant, at Loyd's Coffee-Houſe in Lombard-ſtreet, at 5 in the Afternoon preciſely (only one Hhd in a Lot) 85 Hhds of excellent New French Clarets, of the very laſt Vintage, viz. Margaux, Obrion, and other of the beſt growths of France, [illegible], with the true [illegible], fine [illegible] and fit for preſent Bottling, Imported by Meſſieurs Toution and Guin [illegible], now under their Dwelling Houſe in Mark-lane in Fenchurch-ſtreet. To be be ſeen and taſted this Day till the time of Sale. To be ſold by Tho. Tomkins, Broker, in Seething lane in Tower-ſtreet.

To be Sold by AUCTION,

On Wedneſday the 22d Inſtant, the Houſhold-Goods of Charles [illegible] Eſq; at his Houſe at Hammerſmith, adjoining to the [illegible], conſiſting of rich Damask and fine Cloth Beds, Window Curtains, [illegible] Hangings, Peer-Glaſſes, Chimney-Glaſſes, India Screens, with an India Cheſt, and fine Cabinets, fine blue and white China, and other fine China, a large Marble Beaufet with a Marble Ciſtern and a Marble Side Table, all Sorts of Kitchen Goods, large Copper Brewing Veſſels, with ſeveral other Things and Pictures. The Houſe and Gardens to be ſold. The Goods, &c. to be ſeen on Friday, Saturday, Monday and Tueſday before the Sale; Catalogues to be had at the Houſe gratis. The Sale to begin at 10 a Clock in the Morning preciſely.

At the old Warehouſe, is juſt now made up a freſh Parcel of Morning Gowns for Men and Women of Brocades, rich Damasks, Sattens, Callicoes and Stuffs, with very fine Linings; and will be ſold much cheaper than [illegible], the Goods being bought of People that broke. Several [illegible] fell under the ſame Notion, but the greateſt Choice and beſt Pennyworths is at the golden Sugar-Loaf right againſt the [illegible] at Charing-Croſs, with the [illegible] ſort of Canvas and Quilted Petticoats.

Is continued to be Sold, neat French Brandy, full proof, and of true flavour, for 95 l. by the Tun, and at 8 s. [illegible] Gallon for any Quantity leſs than half a Hogſhead: At the Black Lyon, over-againſt [illegible] Chappel in Cheapſide, where conſtant Attendance will be given.

LONDON: Printed for *S. Buckley* and *J. Tonſon*, and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*.

T